



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Probation
Department No.: 022
For Agenda Of: February 11, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Tanja Heitman, Chief Probation Officer (805) 803-8537
Director(s)
Contact Info: Damon Fletcher, Administrative Deputy Director (805) 882-3654
SUBJECT: Authorize the Chief Probation Officer to sign the Pretrial Pilot Program
Memorandum of Understanding between the Superior Court of California, County
of Santa Barbara and County of Santa Barbara Probation Department

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of supervisors:

- A. Authorize the Chief Probation Officer to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara, and County of Santa Barbara Probation Department for the Pretrial Services Pilot Program;
- B. Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities or funding mechanisms which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA guidelines.

Summary Text:

The Santa Barbara Superior Court applied for, and was awarded, a Pretrial Pilot Program grant from the Judicial Council of California. On November 19, 2019 your Board approved the allocation of positions and a budget revision recognizing State grant funds and increasing Probation Department appropriations. Execution of the MOU is necessary to comply with the terms of the grant and will allow the Probation Department to recover authorized costs retroactively to the grant start date of August 1, 2019.

Background:

The Probation Department implemented a supervised pretrial release program in fiscal year (FY) 2017-18 with two officers assigned as Pretrial Compliance Officers. The number of individuals being supervised increased quickly and an additional two officers were added to address the workload. During this time there were efforts at the State level to address bail reform and locally discussions occurred between the Superior Court and the Probation Department regarding the transfer of the responsibility for pretrial assessments to Probation. It was determined that having both assessment and supervision under the Probation Department would create efficiencies which would allow Probation to address the need for additional supervision capacity, while continuing to deliver a similar level of pretrial assessment service to the Courts. In collaboration with the County Executive Office, the Probation Department submitted a budget expansion request heard at the June 2019 budget hearings which proposed transferring responsibility for pretrial services from the Court to Probation mid-way through FY2019-20. The transfer occurred on December 30, 2019.

The level of staffing at the time did not allow for risk assessments and analysis for possible release on pretrial supervision for every person booked into jail. In July 2019 the Santa Barbara Superior Court applied for a grant from the Judicial Council of California that included additional assessment and support staff for the Probation Department. Under the grant proposal, assessments would be completed on all individuals booked into a local jail for suitability for pretrial release, with or without supervision, within 24 hours of booking. It is anticipated that the grant funded staff which were authorized in November 2019 will provide sufficient staffing to meet this goal. The MOU provides the guidelines and mechanism for the Probation Department to claim grant funded reimbursement from the Superior Court.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State	\$ 608,162.00		\$ 1,361,720.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:	\$ -		
Total	\$ 608,162.00	\$ -	\$ 1,361,720.00

Narrative:

The State Pretrial Pilot Program grant will provide \$1,361,720 to the Probation Department over the 23-month grant period ending June 30, 2021. The budget revision adjusting appropriation and revenues for the FY 2019-20 portion totaling \$608,162 was approved by your Board on November 19, 2019. The FY 2020-21 expenditures and revenues will be included in the Probation Department’s FY 2020-21

proposed budget. The execution of the MOU by the Chief is necessary to be able to draw down grant funded reimbursement from the Superior Court.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0.0

FTEs:
0.0

Special Instructions:

None

Attachments:

Attachment A: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara, and County of Santa Barbara Probation Department for the Pretrial Services Pilot Program.

Authored by:

Damon Fletcher, Administrative Deputy Director